

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05001 020952Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 PPT-01 L-03 /018 W

----- 087642

P R 020910Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1874

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5001

DEPT FOR EUR/CE, SCA, PPT, AND VO

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, PINT, CGEN, CVIS, GW, GE, WB, US

SUBJ: "GERMANY" IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT

REFS: A. BERLIN 6931; B. PRESIDENT'S MEMORANDUM ON EXECUTIVE
ORDER 11478, C. BERLIN 6903

1. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. ON DECEMBER 24, CHARGE CALLED
US DESK MFA (HILLMANN, AS GEYER WAS ON LEAVE) TO ASK FOR
STATUS OF RACHEL BISHOP VISA AND PROMPT ISSUANCE
THEREOF. HILLMAN SAID HE WOULD INFORM HIMSELF OF THE
CIRCUMSTANCES. ON DECEMBER 29, CONSULAR SECTION LOCAL
EMPLOYEE CALLED CONSULAR DEPARTMENT MFA TO ASK FOR STATUS
OF CASE AND WAS TOLD IT WAS STILL BEING REVIEWED. ON
DECEMBER 30, DURING A CONVERSATION ON ANOTHER SUBJECT,
MRS. SEIDEL OF CONSULAR DEPARTMENT TOLD EMBOFF THAT,
AFTER THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR KLOBES AND THE
CHARGE ON DECEMBER 19 (SEE REF A), SHE WAS PLEASED
TO ADVISE THAT RACHEL BISHOP'S PASSPORT AND AN ANNEX
("ANLAGE") WITH A ONE YEAR DIPLOMATIC VISA COULD BE
PICKED UP BY THE EMBASSY. WHEN ASKED BY EMBOFF WHAT
THE ANNEX WAS, MRS. SEIDEL SAID THAT IT INVOLVED A
PROCEDURE FOR VISAS IN SPECIAL CASES. EMBOFF THANKED
HER FOR INFORMATION AND SAID HE HAD TAKEN NOTE OF
STATEMENT. THE PASSPORT IS NOW IN OUR POSSESSION. THE
"ANLAGE" CONSISTS OF A LOOSE NUMBERED SHEET OF PASSPORT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05001 020952Z

PAPER ON WHICH A DIPLOMATIC ONE YEAR MULTIPLE ENTRY VISA,

ISSUED ON DECEMBER 30, 1975, IS STAMPED. THE DOCUMENTATION ON WHICH RACHEL BISHOP LEAVE AND ENTER THE GDR IS THUS HER DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT PLUS REPEAT PLUS THE "ANLAGE".

2. OPTIONS. WE CAN EITHER ACCEPT THE "ANLAGE" PROCEDURE, OR REJECT IT AS DISCRIMINATORY. TO ACCEPT IT MEANS THAT THE GDR WILL HAVE SUCCESSFULLY SHIFTED ITS ATTACK ON "GERMANY" IN PASSPORTS FROM THE DIRECT TO THE OBLIQUE IN ITS VISAING PROCEDURES. OUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE "ANLAGE" FURTHER WOULD MEAN THAT THE EAST GERMANS WILL HAVE WON A THINLY SLICED CONCESSION FROM US ON THE NATIONALITY ISSUE WHICH THEY CAN PERHAPS SEEK TO USE DURING THE FORTHCOMING THIRD ROUND OF CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS. THE "ANLAGE", MOREOVER, AMOUNTS TO A REJECTION OF A US DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT AS THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENT TO CONTAIN A GDR VISA.

3. WE ARE DISINCLINED TO ACCEPT THE GDR POSITION. ALTHOUGH IT MAY NOT DIRECTLY VIOLATE THE LETTER OF THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT MEMORANDUM ON NON-DISCRIMINATION ON OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENTS OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES (SEE REF B), THE PROPOSED GDR PRACTICE DOES ESTABLISH SPECIAL AND DIFFERENT VISAING PROCEDURES FOR CATEGORIES OF US OFFICIAL STAFF AND DEPENDENTS ACCORDING TO THE DESCRIPTION OF BIRTHPLACE. ALTHOUGH VISA PRACTICES ARE AN INTERNAL AFFAIR OF ISSUING GOVERNMENTS, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD STRONGLY OBJECT TO DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF PERSONS ASSIGNED HERE WITH DIPLOMATIC STATUS. THE USG DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE IN VISA PROCESSING BETWEEN DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF GDR STAFF AND DEPENDENTS ASSIGNED TO WASHINGTON. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE GDR IS USING THIS DISTINCTIVE PROCEDURE FOR ITS OWN POLITICAL PURPOSES, AND NOT BECAUSE OF ANY MERITS OF THE RACHEL BISHOP CASE.

4. RECOMMENDATION. ACCORDINGLY, WE PLAN TO RETURN THE PASSPORT AND "ANLAGE" TO THE CONSULAR DEPARTMENT. WE WILL SAY THAT, AS WE DO NOT USE ANNEXES FOR GDR STAFF AND DEPENDENTS OR DISTINGUISH AS TO CATEGORIES OF PERSONS, WE CANNOT ACCEPT SUCH PRACTICES FOR USG STAFF

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BERLIN 05001 020952Z

OR DEPENDENTS, AS WE VIEW THIS PROCEDURE AS DISCRIMINATORY. IF THE CONSULAR DEPARTMENT IS ADVISING US THAT ALL US STAFF AND DEPENDENTS ASSIGNED TO THIS EMBASSY ARE HENCEFORTH TO BE VISAED WITH ANNEXES, WE WILL CONSIDER THIS AND PROVIDE A RESPONSE ON THE BASIS OF INSTRUCTIONS. IF MFA PROPOSES TO USE ANNEXES FOR CERTAIN OF OUR STAFF AND DEPENDENTS ONLY, WE CANNOT ACCEPT THAT ANY US OFFICIAL OR DEPENDENT IS TREATED DISCRIMINATORILY.

WE WOULD PLAN TO APPROACH THE MFA DURING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 5, AND WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT APPROACH THE GDR EMBASSY ALONG THE LINES THAT EMERGE AS THE US POSITION ON THIS QUESTION. WE HAVE DEALT PATIENTLY WITH THIS MATTER, AND MADE CLEAR TO GDR OFFICIALS THAT WE DO NOT CONSIDER THIS A POLITICAL ISSUE IN OUR RELATIONS. THIS RESPONSE, HOWEVER, HAS IN OUR JUDGEMENT BEEN UNACCEPTABLE.

5. THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED.COOPER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PASSPORT REGULATIONS, OFFICIAL VISAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERLIN05001
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760001-0077
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760191/aaaadcnl.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BERLIN 6931
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "GERMANY" IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT
TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, PINT, CGEN, CVIS, GE, GC, WB, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006